

THE FIREMAN'S JOURNAL AND MILITARY GAZETTE.

VOL. III—NO. 3.

SAN FRANCISCO, SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 1856.

WHOLE NO. 55.

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY
BY CHASE, BORUCK & CO.
CORNER OF CLAY AND KEARNY STREETS,
Over the Plaza Market.

CHARLES M. CHASE, MARCUS D. BORUCK,
JOSEPH T. PIERSON.

TERMS, FIFTY CENTS PER MONTH.

The FIREMAN'S JOURNAL AND MILITARY GAZETTE is published every Saturday morning, and served to City Subscribers at Fifty Cents per month, payable to the Carriers. It will also be mailed for six months for \$3.00; or \$5.00 per year, payable in advance. All communications, connected with the editorial department, to be addressed to the editor, post paid, as business to the Publisher.

Notation whatever will be given to anonymous communications. Any person wishing articles published in the "Journal" must accompany them with the name of the author. Advertisements will be inserted at the lowest rates. Descriptions of Job Printing attended to promptly.

BUSINESS CARDS.

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CARPENTER AND BUILDER.
Brethren Place, next door to Monumental Engine House.
Jobbing done with neatness and dispatch.

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PRODUCE COMMISSION MERCHANTS
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I. B. PURDY & CO.,
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DRESS AND CLOAK MAKER,
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Importer of
CROCKERY AND GLASS WARE,
Britannia Ware, Cutlery, Lamps, &c., &c.
43 Washington St., adjoining Montgomery Block,
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Goods packed to go safe to any part of the country.
Pioneer store, sign of the Old Octagon Pottery, 1417
1418

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WATCHMAKERS AND JEWELERS
183 Clay Street,
Between Kearny and Montgomery streets,
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M. M. L. & Co. being thorough and practical workmen, they will give their whole attention to the repairing of Clocks, Watches and Jewelry, and by strict attention, care and low charges, hope to merit a share of public patronage. We will always have on hand a good assortment of the best English and French

Watches and Jewelry,
Of the newest styles and best quality.

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Jobbing done with neatness and dispatch.

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Importer and Wholesale and Retail Dealer in
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PARASOLS, &c., &c.
165 Clay Street, above Montgomery,
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Wm. B. Sawyer, Silas W. Johnson,
SAWYER, JOHNSON & CO.,
Importers and Dealers in
PAINTS, OILS, VARNISHES, PUTTY,
WINDOW GLASS, TURPENTINE, BRUSHES,
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103 and 105 Front Street,
Brick store next to cor. Washington, San Francisco. 1411

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No. 147 Commercial Street,
Opposite the U. S. Mint, SAN FRANCISCO.
Breakfast, 63 cts. and 1m. Dinner, 75 cts.

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IN PAT HUNT'S NEW BUILDING,
Corner of Kearny and Sacramento Streets,
SAN FRANCISCO.
1428-14

DAVIS & JORDON,
Dealers in
SANTA CRUZ LIME, CEMENT,
Plaster, Hair, Marble Dust, etc., etc.,
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THE ARCADE LAGER BEER SALOON,
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Between Kearny and Montgomery, SAN FRANCISCO.
Musical Entertainments every evening by MARTIN SIMONSEN.

S. L. PALMER & CO.,
AGRICULTURAL WARE HOUSE,
Cor. Davis and Washington Streets,
SAN FRANCISCO.

Constantly on hand a select assortment of Agricultural Implements and Garden Tools, also, to full and complete stock of Mill Machinery of all kinds. 1428

P. RICHIE,
Corner Kearny and Pacific Sts.,
Wholesale and Retail
GROCERY DEALER.
Keeps constantly on hand a fine assortment of Groceries, and all quality of Flour, Sugar, and other articles, and also a select assortment of liquors. 1428

P. TAGGART,
Dealers in
WOOD, COAL, AND PRODUCE,
Corner Market and First Streets,
SAN FRANCISCO.

Orders thankfully received and promptly attended to.
1422
Fresh Ground Spices—500 Cases, &c., and 1m.
1411 and bottles of Ginger, Cloves, Almonds, Macs and Cinnamon just received and for sale by
1410

Early History of the Fire Department.

On the 15th of April, a bill of one thousand dollars was paid to D. Myer, for the use of engines, from the December fire of 1849, to the above date 1850, and on the 3d of May, a bill of sixteen hundred dollars was paid to J. W. Atkinson, for the construction of a house for the use of hook and ladder Co.—On the 15th of May, a petition of John Sims to be appointed Chief Engineer of the Fire Department, was presented to the Common Council, and appropriately referred. The annexed resolution was passed by the Council on the same day.

"Resolved, that the petition of Captain J. L. Folsom and others, asking to be allowed to organize a fire company, be referred to the Chief Engineer, to place them in possession of an engine as soon as possible.

On the 17th of May, a communication was received from Stuart & Co., offering to sell to the corporation a fire engine.

On the 21st of June, petitions from Empire Engine Co. and Eureka fire company, to be admitted into the fire department, were received and referred to the committee on fire and water.

On the 22d of June, 1850, the following petition was received by the Common Council, and referred to the committee on fire and water:

To THE HONORABLE COMMON COUNCIL OF SAN FRANCISCO:

GENTLEMEN:—The undersigned officers and members of "St. Francis Hook and Ladder Co. No. 1," most respectfully beg leave to represent to your Honorable Body, that on the 17th day of June, 1850, they assembled and organized themselves into a fire association, to be designated "St. Francis Hook and Ladder Company No. 1," now therefore in compliance with an ordinance adopted in your Honorable Body, and approved by his Honor the Mayor on the 1st day of July, 1850. We herewith submit a roll of the officers and members, having duly adopted and signed a Constitution and By-Laws, and request to be duly organized under the name and title herein before specified, and your petitioners also, respectfully request that your Honorable Body will furnish them with a suitable house in the vicinity of the St. Francis Hotel, for the safe keeping of their apparatus—your petitioners also, beg leave to inform your Honorable Body, that they have subscribed a sum of money and already purchased a hook and ladder carriage, hooks, ladders' rope, axes, and all other apparatus for the proper equipment of their company, which are now in their possession, ready for service, at a moment's notice, in all cases of fire. In view of this fact, your petitioners respectfully request that your Honorable Body will instruct the city Comptroller to indemnify them in money or scrip, for the amount subscribed under the proper certificates and vouchers of the company officers, agreeable to a city ordinance, passed and duly approved January 8th, 1850. And as in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

Joseph C. Palmer, Foreman,
Chas. P. Duane, Assistant Foreman,
J. H. Perry, Treasurer,
Samuel H. Ward, Secretary,
W. H. Parker, Steward.

MEMBERS.

Wm. A. Woodruff, John E. Darvage,
James Pierpont, George W. Gibbs,
Galen Burdell, John H. Still,
George R. Morris, John W. Conner,
J. B. Campbell, Alfred Wheeler,
Edmond Laffan, Wm. H. Stevens,
A. M. Van Nostrand, Edward Conner,
W. M. Hoffman, L. H. Robie,
and fifty others upon the company's roll.

On the 28th of June, a petition from engine company No. 2, was received and referred, the petition being for the requirements of the company. On the 22d of July, a petition was received from St. Francis Hook and Ladder Co., to the same effect, and on the 12th of August, from fire engine Co. No. 2, to have their house enlarged, referred to committee on fire and water.

On the 16th of August, the fire and water committee of the Common Council presented the following report:

The committee on fire and water to whom was referred the petition of the St. Francis hook and ladder Co., asking compensation for monies expended in procuring their fire apparatus, respectfully report that the petitioners ask only to be remunerated for their actual expenditures and as they hold themselves subject to the laws of the city, as provided by ordinance governing the fire department, they believe their request to be reasonable and proper and report for adoption the following resolution:

"Resolved, that the Comptroller be and he is hereby authorized to issue scrip to the officers of the St. Francis hook and ladder Co., to the amount expended by them in purchasing their fire apparatus—the bills for which to be properly certified by the officers of said company, all of which is respectfully submitted.

Moses G. Leonard, } Committee.
David Gillespie, }

On the 9th of September, 1850, a petition was received from California engine Co. No. 4, as follows:

COMPANY'S OFFICE, HAPPY VALLEY, }
September 9th, 1850. }

To THE HONORABLE THE CORPORATION OF SAN FRANCISCO:

GENTLEMEN:—Pursuant to notice, a numerous meeting of the citizens of this portion of the city, was held on Monday, Thursday, and Saturday evenings of the past week, for the purpose of organizing a fire company—the propriety of which seems to be too evident to require any argument or apology for adopting the measure.

This association is established under the name and style of "CALIFORNIA ENGINE COMPANY," is now duly organized, having its Constitution and By-Laws signed by the members, the usual general arrangements made, and the officers appointed, and they have deemed the present occasion appropriate to advise the Common Council accordingly, and respectfully solicit their assistance in the provision of the necessary apparatus, to fully consummate the company's equipments. Your petitioners desirous of rendering their services available at the earliest time of need, pray your Honorable Body's prompt and favorable consideration—its effect will multiply our effective force, and importantly to the means of security now in promising progress, and tend to the expeditions and more thorough organization of the San Francisco Fire Department.

James S. Hyatt, } Committee.
Moses G. Leonard, }

James Lansing, }

The petition was referred to the fire and water committee.

The following resolution was passed by the Common Council, on the 9th of September:

Resolved, that the petition of California Engine Company No. 4, be referred to the committee on fire and water of both Boards, together with the Mayor, with power to procure the necessary apparatus for said company, and the said company be admitted as one of the fire companies of this city.

On the 13th September, Messrs. Howard and Green, sent in a communication to the Common Council, offering for sale a fine engine and its accompaniments. It was referred to the Fire and Water Committee. With the communication was the annexed description of the apparatus, and a list of the articles connected with her.

"The Howard Engine is a suction fire engine, with cylinders 6 inches in diameter, capable of discharging 350 gallons of water per minute, and is furnished with the following outfit:—

4 Sections suction hose, 23 1/2 ft. with strainer and saddle; 2 extra vacuum chamber; 2 extra pipes; Hose Carriage to carry 500 feet hose, signal lantern and 6 copper torches; 1 jack, 1 pair extra axes, 16 buckets, 3 trumpets, 1006 feet leading hose, 75 feet ladders, 1 fire hook, pole chain, &c., 1 wyandrift, 1 hammer, 1 pair tongs; 25 lbs. hose rivets and burrs; 1 pair cut nippers; 5 dozen spoons, 60 tin dippers, 2 gals. leather preservative for hose, spanners, and all necessary tools for a complete engine Co.—On the 13th Sept. a resolution was passed, authorizing the Comptroller to audit the account of the Treasurer of the St. Francis Hook and Ladder Co., and satisfy their final demands out of any means at his disposal. Also, that the Committee on Fire and Water be, and are authorized to furnish houses necessary for the protection of the machines and Hook and Ladder trucks belonging to the Fire Department, provided a former ordinance has not already made provisions for the same.

On the 16th of September the accompanying ordinance was passed:—

Be it ordained by the people of the City of San Francisco:—That the Mayor and the members of the Committee on the Fire and Water Committee, shall have power to purchase three fire engines, and the Comptroller be, and is hereby authorized to draw on the Treasurer for the same, payable out of any funds not otherwise appropriated. On the 20th Sept., a resolution was adopted for the purchase of the Howard Engine,—the following report having been made thereon. "The Committee on Fire and Water to whom was referred the application of Howard and Green to purchase a fire engine and hose, beg leave to report. That his Honor the Mayor, by authority of a resolution of this Common Council previously made, has purchased said engine and hose, and that the same is now the property of the City. The Committee therefore beg to be discharged from the further consideration of the subject.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

M. G. LEONARD, } Committee.
DAVID GILLESPIE, }

The Monster Steamship.

The London Times of February 28th, says:—

That next week about 1000 men will be employed upon the 'great leviathan' belonging to the Eastern Steam Navigation Company, now in the course of construction at Messrs. Scott Russell's. She will be 23,000 tons register, and will carry about 12,000 tons of coal in addition. She will be 23,000 tons register, and will carry 10,000 passengers, and will have eight screw steamers for her complement of large boats, four on each side. She is of most gigantic proportions, and a visit to her is a sight to be talked of. When she is completed and in the water, she will assuredly draw 'all London' to her; and, in fact, be the greatest curiosity in the kingdom.

The oldest invention of recent date is a steam thawing machine, invented, made and used in Cincinnati. It was built by Mr. Latta, the builder of the steam fire-engine, and is owned and used by the fire department of that city, to thaw fire-plugs, hydrants, cisterns, pumps, or any such water arrangement that may be frozen. It is mounted on a sleigh, and looks like a stove, with a pipe rising from it, from which the smoke issues. At the bottom a furnace burns, and from the top a gutta percha hose issues, to the end of which is attached a piece of iron pipe, the steam is conveyed through this hose and pipe into the fire-plugs, etc., and produces the desired thaw. When the job is finished, the sleigh is remounted and the machine is driven off to another place.—The boiler consumes about three gallons of water in four hours, and the fireman say that it is the best thing for the purpose.

An English paper says:—Mr. Moncell, the other night, in the House of Commons, said a general impression prevailed that a great proportion of the recruits sent to the East were mere boys below the age of 18. This opinion, however, was not borne out by facts, as a return which he held in his hand would show:—Ages of the army.—When the war began: Under 18 years, 576; from 18 to 30, 11,922; from 30 to 40, 3455; above 40, 159; total, 16,012. Now in the Crimea: Under 18 years, 499; from 18 to 30, 18,201; from 30 to 40, 2487; above 40, 15; total, 16,152. Ages of 10,268 men sent to the Crimea between April and October, 1855.—Ages by years: Under 18 years, 162; from 18 to 21, 5818; from 21 to 24, 2822; from 24 to 30, 2244; above 30, 412; total, 10,268.

NEW ORLEANS.—Tuesday the 4th of March was the nineteenth anniversary of the Fire Department of New Orleans. The procession was not so large, nor the decorations as brilliant as on similar former occasions. It was a gorgeous pageant, however, every company in the city being fully represented, and the engines being tastefully decorated with flowers and images.—The day was propitious, and the Fire Department had cause to be proud of the brilliancy and gorgeousness of the display.

ELECTION.—The election for Engineers of the New York Fire Department, came off on the evening of 20th of March. As the steamer left on the morning of that day, the returns were not received until the arrival of the next mail steam-ship.

Philadelphia.

The following interesting account of a presentation to Capt. Lyle, of Philadelphia, well known to many of the military of this city, particularly the National Guards, and which we take from a paper of that city, will be read with interest.—The "fire" spoken of in Mr. Quayle's address as being temporarily absent, are now in this country, three of them members of the National Guard of this city.

"The presentation of the full-length and life-like portrait of Capt. Lyle, to that officer, took place at the army of the National Guards last night. The attendance was quite large, and the proceedings interesting and enthusiastic.

Lieut. R. B. Quayle, in presenting the picture to the able and esteemed Captain of the Guards, said, in substance as follows:

It is now nearly ten years, since, yielding to the earnest solicitations of a large majority of your fellow members, you consented to accept of command of the corps, which you have since held with so much honor to yourself, and satisfaction to them. The condition of the Company at that period, despite its manual strength and outward show of prosperity, was critical in the extreme—disensions had sprung up in the ranks—discipline was neglected, and the tide of dissatisfaction was fast drifting it on to dissolution. At this crisis you were called upon to take command. Those who knew you best, believing that you possessed the requisite talent, skill and judgment, to preserve the integrity of the corps, and bring it through its difficulties in safety, the history of the past ten years has fully endorsed the wisdom of that choice, and placed your abilities as a commander above all question. The difficulties you have had to encounter have been neither few nor insignificant, requiring not only frequently the exercise of the nicest discretion: to say that you have proved yourself equal to every emergency, would be but to repeat what your own acts, and the present position of the corps have so triumphantly demonstrated. The responsibilities attached to the command of a volunteer corps are under the most favorable circumstances, arduous and exacting; but when, as in your case, the commander has to contend against the triple evils of bad laws, delinquent if not dishonest City Treasurers; and worse than all, inferior officers notoriously incompetent and inefficient, they become onerous in the extreme, and it is only by the exercise of the most careful judgment that the discipline of a company can be maintained and its organization preserved. The feelings entertained for you by those under your command, are best illustrated by the fact that of the 34 parading members, composing the corps at the adoption of the present uniform, six years ago, all but four are still members, and with the exception of five temporarily absent from the city, are here present to-night; the 'props' as they are not inaptly called, having stood by you with unwavering firmness and unanimity, until the roll of 34 has swelled to 134.

The progress of the company from the date of your commission as its Commander to the present time, has been upward and onward, the destroying flames having proved powerless to check its forward march to prosperity—passing Phoenix like through the fiery ordeal, to 'Rise brighter.'

Your fellow members, pursuant to a desire long cherished, to present you some suitable token expressive of their confidence and esteem, have procured this life-like portrait of yourself, which they ask you to accept as a slight evidence of their good feeling, and an earnest of their appreciation of those qualities—the exercise of which have so largely contributed to the present prosperity of the corps. Believing that your past career will be more than justified in the future, I now present you in the name of my fellow members and associates this picture, the free will offering of their hearts, which they ask you to accept and preserve, as a memento of their good will, and good wishes.

Capt. Lyle, in accepting the testimonial, responded in a speech full of spirit and modest merit, to the course of his felicitous remarks, he alluded to the early history of the Guards, of the steady progress of the corps, and the promising future which lies before it. In all of his efforts he had only endeavored to promote its best interests and perfect its discipline. He was happy to feel and to know that his efforts are appreciated by those for whom he had labored. In accepting the token offered by his friends, in that hall, he felt a glow of more than ordinary pride, for in that hall, twenty years ago, he had commenced his military career, which now was bright and radiant before him. He could only return his thanks for this new evidence of esteem from his friends and companions in arms, and he assured them that his thanks came from the inmost recesses of his heart.

At the close of Capt. Lyle's address, the company gave him three cheers, which was succeeded by the greatest enthusiasm.

We will add that the army of the Guards will be open to-day for the visits of ladies, many of whom will avail themselves of the opportunity of inspecting the capital portrait and the many other attractive features of the room.

There are eleven firms in Philadelphia engaged in the manufacture of gold watch cases, all of whom employ over three hundred hands, and turn out at least five hundred cases per week, at a cost of some twenty thousand dollars, or more than one million dollars per annum. The gold manufactured into cases weekly, will not amount to much less than fourteen thousand dollars, or over a half million of dollars per annum.

PROTECTION 2.—At an election for officers of Protection engine company No. 2, of Sacramento, held on Monday evening, John H. Housman was elected Foreman; Andrew Aitkin, first assistant foreman; M. Reed, second assistant foreman; J. Whitley, Secretary; Henry Van Every, Treasurer.

SPRINGFIELD.—A proposition has been submitted to the Congressional Committee on Military Affairs for an appropriation of \$100,000 to be expended in the erection of additional workshops at the Springfield Armory.

Fires.

28,000 bales of cotton, valued at \$180,000, was destroyed at the lower cotton press, New Orleans, on the 9th of March.

Kelly's cotton mill, at Derby, Delaware Co., Va., was destroyed by fire on the 7th of March; loss, \$150,000. Insurance, \$50,000. Four hundred persons thrown out of employment.

The lard, oil store and candle factory of N. G. Ropes, & Co., Cincinnati, burned down on the 16th of March. Loss, \$50,000; Insurance, \$30,000.

The Essex cotton mill, Newburyport, Mass., was destroyed by fire on the 6th of March—loss, \$90,000; Insurance, \$55,000.

The paper mill of Leonard Whitney, & Son, Watertown, Mass., was destroyed by fire in March—loss, \$12,000; Insurance, \$6,000.

The large six story brick building fronting in Twenty Second street, and 4th Avenue, New York, was with its contents burned down on the night of the 19th of March—loss \$150,000. The building was owned and partly occupied by Jacob Hoppeck, whose loss is estimated at \$100,000.

The large casting house of the Cambridge Iron Works, Johnstown, Pa., was destroyed by fire on the 17th of March—loss \$40,000.

The following is from the Albany Journal:—THE MILITARY STRENGTH OF VIRGINIA.—A Roanoke cavalier, sitting on an empty ammunition box, teasing a musk rat upon the blunt point of one of the State's old bayonets, and contemplating the figures of the last report of the Adjutant General of Virginia, would be as touching a picture as the artist intended to make of Marius sitting upon the broken column in the ruins of Carthage. It would express too very clearly the decayed military condition of the Old Dominion. On paper this material State of statesmen, is strong, and has quite the wrinkled front of war. The Brigade returns in 1853 flattered the chivalric with the possession of 92 troops of Cavalry, 50 companies of Artillery, 49 companies of Light Infantry, and 65 companies of Riflemen—a tight little army of 14,047 men.

The Adjutant General has lately been hunting around for these defenders of the Commonwealth, and champions of State Rights. He sadly reports to the Legislature, that of those 92 companies of Cavalry, 92 are wholly missing—that 49 out of those 60 companies of Artillery are "gone"—that but 9 companies of Light Infantry are left in the whole State—and that 64 companies out of the 65 of Riflemen, can't anywhere be heard of. In the vernacular of the Dominion, they are "clean gone." From bad to worse, proceeds this sorrowful report. The actual aggregate of the Virginia military force when chased down, number 243—but when last mustered, only 225 appeared under arms. It does not speak well for the Virginia idea of property that the Adjutant in his descending climax of troubles, is obliged to state that nineteen-twentieths of all the arms issued by the State for many years past, have been stolen, and also "clean gone." In the language of the Richmond Inquirer, "is not this exposure enough to strike every patriot with consternation?"

In the New York Superior Court on Thursday last, Major John Crawley, proprietor of the United States Military and Naval Argus, obtained a verdict of fifty dollars and costs against the publishers of the Tribune. It appears that in April last a complimentary benefit was given to the Major, in consideration of his newspaper services to the military, and that thereupon the Tribune gave publicity to the following libellous statement:—

A SHAM AFFAIR.—Considerable ado has of late been made in the way of handbills, newspaper advertisements and other scientific modes of inflating catch-penny affairs—all of which had in view of getting up a grand celebration of the anniversary of the Battle of Lexington, for the benefit of the individual well known among the military as Major Crawley. As a testimonial for his editorial services to the military, it was the object of the demonstration to give him a substantial benefit by an attendance of the Military, and the friends of the Major, at the theatre at an admission of 25 cents per head. Just before the day arrived, however, it was discovered by the military of New York that the affair was but a speculation, or artful dodge of a showman, the proprietor of a not very chaste or respectable exhibition in the Bowery, who having obtained of the valiant major the use of his name 'for a consideration,' arranged a plan to take in the military, and to 'em up brown at 25 cents a head. A few companies, not having heard of the arrangement, made their appearance, but soon ascertaining that they had been sold at 25 cents per head, left in disgust, and made their way home, with moderate music, through unfrequented streets, muttering hard words, such as 'humbug' and 'sham.'

The counsel for plaintiff alleged that the publication drew four thousand subscribers from the Argus, and in other ways damaged the reputation and pocket of their client.

Major Crawley claimed damages to the amount of \$10,000.

SMALL OF ITS AGE.—Now, Charley, my boy, there's a bottle of wine that's forty years old. 'Forty years! By Jove, I'm astonished!' 'What, because it is so old?' 'No, Jack; but to find it so small of its age.'

CONNECTICUT.—An effort is being made in Connecticut, to organize a volunteer militia force similar to that already in existence in the State of Massachusetts.

CINCINNATI.—The insurance officers of Cincinnati, sent in a strong remonstrance against the proposed illumination, which came off in that city, on the 22d of February.

LONDON.—The Convent Garden theatre, one of the most magnificent architectural buildings in London, was destroyed by fire on the morning of the 5th of March. Estimated loss about \$600,000.

PLACERVILLE.—A fire occurred in Placerville on the 15th, which destroyed property to the amount of \$50,000.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

FIRE ENGINES

Firemen's Apparatus.

The subscribers are manufacturing Fire En-

gines, Hose Carts or Bells both Dressing and Section Fire, on an extensive scale, and they warrant all their work to give entire satisfaction to the purchasers, on delivery and trial, or no sale.

Having seventeen years experience, and a large establishment constructed expressly for the above business, they feel confident that they can furnish a better article for less money than can be found at any other manufactory.

Orders by Mail or otherwise promptly attended to. E. BUTTON & CO. 125 1/2m Waterford, Saratoga Co. N. Y.

Fulton Iron Works.

WORTH, HYDE & FIELD,

Manufacturers of

STEAM AND FIRE ENGINES,

Pumps, Saw and Quartz Mills, etc.,

Davis Street, bet. Sacramento and California,

SAN FRANCISCO.

Machinery made and repaired to order. Repairing done with neatness and dispatch, at the most reasonable terms. 1422

NOTICE.

NEW YORK, September, 1855.

The undersigned having appointed Mr. J. B. BLANCHARD, of Sacramento City, his Agent in California, will respectfully inform the members of the California Fire Department, that gentlemen will always keep on hand an assortment of Fire Caps, Hose Covers, Striking Leathers, Belts, Trumpets, and every article required by the Fireman, of every style and finish, of his celebrated manufactory.

Mr. BLANCHARD will also receive orders for every article in a fireman's equipment, which he will forward to me, and I can assure those who may favor me with their orders that they will be attended to with promptness and fidelity.

Very Respectfully,
H. T. GRATACAP,
FIRE CAP MAKER,
143 Green Street,
New York.

J. B. BLANCHARD & CO.,
Importers and Dealers in

Hardware, &c.

Paints, Oils, and Window Glass,

No. 177 J Street,
SACRAMENTO. 1m

J. W. Griffith G. J. Bucklew

GRIFFITH & CO.,

LOOKING-GLASS & PICTURE FRAME

MANUFACTURERS,

No 101 Clay Street, opposite the Plaza,
SAN FRANCISCO.

Ships, steamboats, and hotels decorated. Old frames repainted. Firemen's Certificates hand-colored and appropriately framed. 1412 1/2

FIRE DEPARTMENT HOSE,

EX FIBERTWING.

2500 Feet Extra Quality three inch Leather Hose, manufactured to order.

In store and for sale by

CASB, HERRIS & CO.,
60 Sansome street

del

Ornamental and

The Fireman's Journal

AND MILITARY GAZETTE.

MARCUS D. BOWEN, Editor.

SAN FRANCISCO

SATURDAY MORNING, April 19, 1856.

THE FIREMAN'S JOURNAL

Published every Saturday Morning.

At corner Clay & Kearny sts., over old Post Office.

It will be regularly served to subscribers in San Francisco every Saturday morning at an early hour, for fifty cents per month, payable in advance.

Persons in the city who wish the paper left at their residences, will be served on leaving their names at the publication office.

Advertisements and advertising notices inserted at New York prices.

The FIREMAN'S JOURNAL is for sale on the day of its publication, and for a week thereafter, by J. W. Sullivan, Washington street, near Post Office.

Mr. Ullman & Co Post Office Arcade, Geo H. Leland & Co, Post Office Arcade, John H. Hill, 88 Kearny street, Doran & Merriam, 1751 Clay street, Sandy's News Depot, 294 Stockton Street.

FOR SALE.—Two files of this paper from No. 1 to date. Apply at this office.

The disposition which appears to increase every day in the Fire Department, to expel members is to be regretted, if not condemned, particularly when almost the entire number is for the non-payment of fines and dues.

There is no discretion sufficient shown in thus ostracising a man from being connected with the Fire Department for such a cause.

In nine cases out of ten, the few in a company who from their pecuniary position are unable at times to meet the requirements of the law of their Companies in respect to fines and dues are the very ones by whom the greatest amount of work is performed, and to whom much more leniency should be shown by those who do no work.

We wish it to be understood plainly, that we are not advocating a spirit of opposition to the local organizations of the department, on the contrary we pay implicit obedience to its laws, but we hardly think it fair to just allow those who do no work, and can afford to pay their fines and dues, to remain upon the rolls of companies, while their poorer, but yet as sensitive fellow member, is ruthlessly thrust aside and ignominiously expelled from the ranks, for no other reason than because he is poor, for the excuse given signifies the same thing.

It is all very pleasant, particularly when parties are not personally interested, to vote for the expulsion of a fellow member, on account of his not being able to pay his fines and dues, but companies should be sufficiently well acquainted with the laws of the department, to know, that let the cause be what it may, unless his company re-instates him, with the permission of the Board of Delegates, a member expelled cannot re-enter the Department until after a lapse of two years.

Since the law we quote went into operation, now scarcely a year, One Hundred and Seventeen men have been expelled from the Department, forty five of the number since the last election of Chief Engineer.

The Department should pause and think well of this matter of expulsion before finally acting, for we can assure the members it argues nothing complimentary to the companies interested.

We are entirely opposed to expelling a good, honest, hard working fireman from the ranks, for the reason that he is so unfortunate as not to be able to pay his fines and dues.

We would rather have ten good active firemen on the roll, always to be depended upon and ready for work, who do not pay their fines and dues, than forty breadcloth firemen, never on hand, who are always ready to pay, but not to work.

The fines at present imposed in every company are much too high, and ought to be reduced. There is not so much money afloat now, as when the Department was first organized and therefore the fines should meet with a corresponding decrease.

But seven of the expulsions above spoken of, were for other causes than the non-payment of fines and dues. We earnestly entreat companies not to expel a good man from their midst, for the cause that at the time he may be indebted to them, but adopt some system whereby he may have the opportunity of relieving himself.

There has been considerable difficulty lately engendered in the Board of Delegates in consequence of the ambiguity of the wording of resolutions, amendments &c., presented for consideration.

It has arisen from the fact that there are no conveniences in the room of the Board, such as pen, ink and paper, (except that in use by the Secretary) with which members can have the opportunity of putting their motions in shape, so as to be clearly understood. Under the circumstances, and for the purpose of obviating the difficulty which has heretofore so seriously embarrassed the Board in its deliberations, we suggest that desks, with all the necessary appliances be furnished for the use of the members of the Board, (and also for the use of the Reporters of the Press,) and then there will be no reason why members should not submit their propositions in writing, and thereby comply with the 21 By-Law of the Board of Delegates which distinctly says, "That every motion shall be reduced to writing if the chair or any member desire it."

We wish to remind the city Marshal that by the provisions of the ordinance under which the Police force is organized, he is required to send a detachment of men upon the occa-

ence of all fires to see that the firemen are not impeded in the discharge of their duties.

This has never been done since the ordinance went into effect, and why it has not is more than we can divine.

At the fire of the City Laundry, on Monday, the assistant Engineer, were compelled in several instances, to leave their legitimate duty of superintending the working of the firemen, to keep water carts, drays and other vehicles from passing over the already rotten hose of the Department.

Now it is utterly impossible (neither have they the inclination) for the firemen to do their work as such and as Policemen at the same time. We therefore hope that the Marshal will, when a fire occurs co-operate with the Department, and endeavor to keep back the crowd of idlers and loafers who congregate around the apparatus, and the firemen allowed to work without any obstacle being thrown in their way.

The Military.

On tracing back the history of the United States to the period of the revolution, we are forced to ascribe the success of that great contest to the military knowledge which the colonist then possessed.

For like all great contests for the cause of human right, and the emancipation of man from the thralldom of the oppressor, the birth of our independence had to be baptized in blood.

But it is a mistaken idea that the men who figured in the revolutionary struggle, were deficient in military discipline.

For, from the first landing of the colonists upon the soil of America, up to the period of the revolution, they had not only acquired the practical training, which was necessary to enable them to meet the Indian tribes which inhabited the country, but the struggle which took place between the British and the French, had not only insured them the hardships of camp and field, but had also made them skillful soldiers.

It would be useless to deny that the leaders of the revolution were not to the fullest extent skilled in the use of arms, for the immortal Washington had a long time prior to his being called upon to take the command of the republican forces, acquired himself with credit and exhibited a vast military knowledge, as will at once be seen by the circumstances which transpired between him and General Braddock.

As it was with him, so it was with hundreds of the men that time, and it is very much to be doubted whether if a military knowledge were wanting in that emergency, that the struggles of the patriots who resisted the encroachments of British intolerance, would have been crowned with success.

In fact the British troops from the time the first gun was fired at Lexington, and the surrender of Cornwallis, encountered in the colonists an unexampled skill in the use of arms.

The heavy columns of Infantry and Cavalry under the command of the British officers, met the men who well knew how to form in line of battle and counter their shock, and the fortifications erected at that time have proved how much they were skilled in the construction of works of defense.

Scarcely had the country achieved a victory by its arms, than the necessity of the organization of a military force to maintain the newly gained liberty of the people securely against encroachment, was a god by the statesmen of that time.

The necessity of subordination, discipline and drill of order and arrangement in the disposition of large forces of men, and a material were felt during the revolution, and amongst the steps taken by the first congress, was the passage of a law for the better organization of the military forces of the United States.

As it was apparent from the state of the finances of the nation, as well as the nature of the war, that it was impossible to maintain a standing army that the country could not keep up a large peaceful establishment and knowing the love of country which imbued the masses of the people at the same time, laws were passed for the organization of the militia of the several states, by which each state of the confederacy was bound by its fealty and pledged to the nation to secure within its limits a militia system, and to enforce respect for that law.

We find as a necessary consequence that there is not a state, from the original thirteen, down to the latest one, which has asked for admission into the confederacy, but has adopted a militia system, and not only carried out the intention of the framers of the arc of congress in reference to the militia, but obliged the able-bodied white male citizens within their borders to perform military duty, and a so, compelled those who refused to do so, to pay a tax for the maintenance of the system.

To illustrate the benefits resulting from this system, it is only necessary to refer to the past. The war of 1812 was as much looked for by the nation as could be; but when it came the country was prepared for it.

The militia system threw into that contest briled men and brave soldiers; success again crowned the nation with victorious laurels, again was the British Legion forced to retire to its lair.

The war with Mexico was also an emergency that few expected and yet it came and spoke trumpet, longed again for the necessity of a militia system. Scarcely had the smoke of the last gun ascended from the battle field, of Palo Alto, and Resaca de la Palma, before the executive of the nation was obliged to call for requisition the military aid of the volunteer forces of the several States of the Confederacy.

It is true the call was promptly answered with a degree of patriotism which was unexampled, but what was the condition of things at that time? why, from the burlesque of the militia system by men who had no foresight or judgment. In several States, the system had been brought into such disrepute that a large body of the volunteers who obeyed the call of the nation found themselves, unskilled in the rudiments of the profession of arms, and were thus obliged to enter into the campaign, at a time when the necessities of marches, countermarches, contests and expeditions which were sufficient to break down the most hardy and trained troops of the regular army.

What was the consequence? why that disease and hardship, destroyed at least double the number of those slain in battle, while the regular forces of the country engaged in the war maintained their numbers mostly unabated.

And as a proof of the efficiency of the militia, does not the history of the Mexican War, show that from the ranks of the "Volunteers sprung skillful officers, men whose daring heroism and skill might well come into competition with those whose sole profession was that of arms.

JURISCONSULT.

John Short.

William H. Bovee, was elected Foreman of Vigilant engine company No. 9, on Wednesday evening last, vice John Short, resigned.

Business engagements prevented Mr. S. from longer holding the command of No. 9, and his retirement will be regretted not more by his company, than by the Department generally.

During his foremanship, Mr. Short was always active in preserving harmony and good feeling in the organization, and by his well earned reputation as a man of integrity, prompted in the performance of all his undertakings by honorable motives, he has added much to that dignity and good name which marks the Fire Department.

Mr. Short still remains upon the roll as an active fireman. The gentleman selected to fill the vacancy, is well known to the Department as an old fireman, and we sincerely hope that the company under his command, will meet with the same success that has always distinguished it.

CHARLESTON, S. C.—We are in receipt of some valuable information, respecting the Fire Department of Charleston, for which we are indebted to C. O. Bowman, Chief Engineer of the Department, and E. F. Sweeney, Secretary of the same fire company. We shall make extracts for publication next week.

Politics and the Firemen.

The firemen of Williamsburgh, Long Island, for the purpose of separating their organization from political influences, passed an act of incorporation, suited to the object, which was read three times before the Board of Representatives as different meetings, and then printed and distributed among the firemen throughout the department after which it was adopted by the Board of Representatives and transmitted in charge of a committee to the delegation in the New York Legislature from that section.

Every influence was brought to bear to defeat the measure by political tricksters of all kinds, some of that fraternity going so far as to say that the department itself was diametrically opposed to the passage of the law.

This fact coming to the knowledge of the members of the Fire Department, they met en masse in Fireman's Hall on the 7th March to discuss the provisions of the Bill before the Legislature, when it was stated that a secret underground opposition had been carried on against it, and they were desirous of ascertaining if it proceeded from any of their own body, and if so to meet it at once and know the cause.

The meeting was largely attended and every section of the law was taken up separately and thoroughly discussed. Any explanations desired by the firemen were freely given and the result was the whole bill was unanimously approved.

We cannot but applaud the position taken by the Williamsburgh firemen, this spirit of opposition in a Fire Department, after a majority have decided to act, is an evil which should never be permitted, and it is a pleasure to chronicle such prompt action as that alluded to.

We wish the firemen of Williamsburgh every success in separating themselves from the political influences which are universally sought to be brought to bear upon every similar organization.

The firemen of this City where the first to take the initiative in so glorious a consummation, and which we believe will be followed by every Volunteer Fire Department throughout the Union.

First Infantry Battalion.

The officers of this battalion met on Tuesday evening, in the room of the Board of Delegates, City Hall—Lieut. Col. West presiding—all the companies represented.

Committees were appointed between him and General Braddock. As it was with him, so it was with hundreds of the men that time, and it is very much to be doubted whether if a military knowledge were wanting in that emergency, that the struggles of the patriots who resisted the encroachments of British intolerance, would have been crowned with success.

In fact the British troops from the time the first gun was fired at Lexington, and the surrender of Cornwallis, encountered in the colonists an unexampled skill in the use of arms.

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Lafayette Hook and Ladder Company.

Quite an interesting ceremony took place at the Truck House of the above company on Tuesday, it being the presentation of a fine bust of "Lafayette" to the company by Dr. Pigne Dupuytrien.

The Foreman, H. A. Cobb, Mr. Grier and other officers of the company together with about a dozen members were in uniform. The hall was crowded with friends of the Lafayette and strangers.

Among those present we noticed Consul Dillon, wife and daughter. The ladies of the family of Mr. Cobb, Mr. Roberts Esq., Lieut. Kellogg of the Revenue service, Lieut. Tournier-Commissaire Lebeand, and other officers of the "Alcote." Dr. H. M. Gray, Dr. A. B. Stout, G. A. Vorn Esq., R. H. Strain and others.

During the assembling of the spectators, a fine band stationed in the meeting room of the company played some very delightful airs.

In presenting the bust to the Lafayette, Dr. Dupuytrien, read a very lengthy address in French, being a compendium of the principal features in the life of their illustrious namesake; during the delivery of the address, the Dr. was repeatedly applauded.

Mr. Cobb, on receiving the present, briefly returned his thanks on behalf of the company and introduced to the audience, Dr. A. B. Stout, who read a most excellent translation of the remarks made by Dr. D., at the conclusion of which the assemblage dispersed, the band playing the "Marseillaise."

The bust is well executed, and of itself, although highly prized, does not possess the great interest of the affair, which exists in the fact, that the pedestal upon which it stands, and the surrounding frame work is composed of the wood of the ship "Cadmus" now lying at Rincon Point, upon which Lafayette made the voyage to the United States from France in 1824.

The bust is placed upon a pedestal of the wood described, the same resting upon the seat of the chair, usually set in during the voyage, by the illustrious passenger; below the pedestal is a water color picture of the "Cadmus" painted by Dr. D., which is most exquisitely done.

The whole affair is supported on either side by corinthian columns six feet high, and are also, of the wood of the "Cadmus."

In the center is placed a half circle of brass, taken from the mainmast of the vessel, upon which her name is engraved; at the top of the frame work is an American Eagle, from whose beak in graceful folds the French and American Colors float in union. It is a remarkable and romantic coincidence, that in thirty-two years after Lafayette's visit to America, in a country at the time unknown and unexplored; such respect should be paid to his memory, by his own countrymen, participated in by Americans, and in a magnificent building reared by the latter for the protection of a band of energetic, daring volunteers, rallying under the inspiring influences which his name always actuates.

At a meeting of the last Light Dragoons, held at their armory, on Tuesday evening April 17, 1856, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, that the untiring zeal, energy and devotion at all times evinced by Major Rowell, while commanding this corps, thereby ensuring its popularity and conducing to its present creditable position, justly entitles him to our sincere thanks.

Resolved, that our sympathies be extended to him in his [as we hope] temporary affliction, and we trust that he may soon be enabled to assume his command, and be restored to the profession he honors.

Resolved, that the earnest aid and co-operation of this company be extended to him in his new position, and while we regret the loss of his services as captain, we congratulate him on his well merited promotion to a more extended field of military duty and usefulness.

Resolved, that the secretary be instructed to forward a copy of these resolutions to Major Rowell, with assurances of our best wishes for his welfare and prosperity.

J. W. CHERRY, J. D. BLUMBERG, Wm. H. BOVEE, Committee.

Official Returns of the Election for Major 1st Mounted Battalion.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 14th, 1856.

At an election for Major of the 1st Mounted Battalion, held at Musical Hall, on the evening of April 10th, 1856, in pursuance of a general call from the commanders of companies composing the volunteers of the city of San Francisco, the following was the result:—

Whole number of votes cast.....71.

California Guard.....15.

1st Light Dragoons.....38.

National Lancers.....20.

Rowell, Captain commanding the 1st Light Dragoons, having received all the votes cast, was declared duly elected Major of 1st Mounted Battalion.

C. L. TAYLOR, Orderly Sergeant, 1st Light Dragoons, Inspector.

J. SEWALL REED, A. MCKENDRY, Clerk's.

The Light Dragoons claim the largest number of men present on the above occasion, as none of their company were permitted to vote unless in uniform.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Secretaries of the various companies composing the Fire Department are hereby informed, that, in accordance with Section 15, of the ordinance applicable to the organization, passed February 19, 1855, requiring them to make a return in the months of November and May, of the roll of their respective companies, stating the number of men enrolled who are active firemen, also the number of persons elected, resigned, suspended or expelled from the company, the blanks necessary for the purpose, are now ready for distribution, and they are requested without delay to procure the same.

MARCUS D. BOWEN, Sec'y S. F. F. D.

San Francisco, April 19, 1856.

At a regular monthly meeting of Crescent Engine Co. No. 10, held April 7, 1856, on accepting the resignation of Mr. Cornelius Penabaz, Treasurer of said company, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, that the thanks of this company be, and are hereby tendered to Mr. Penabaz for the various and efficient services in which he has discharged the duties of his office.

Resolved, that the above resolution be published in the FIREMAN'S JOURNAL.

E. B. MAC GROTTE, Sec'y.

Sanfield Guards, Attention!—There will be a special meeting of the Sanfield Guards held at their room, 8 W. corner of Montgomery and Pacific streets, on Tuesday evening next, the 22d day of April, at 7 1/2 o'clock. The punctual attendance of members is required.

By order, E. F. RYAN, Commanding Co.

Attention, Marions!—An election for officers of your company will be held this "Saturday" Evening April 19th, at the Armory, at 8 P. M. punctual attendance is requested.

L. F. ZANTZINGER, Sec'y.

CALIFORNIA No. 4.—You are hereby notified to meet for drill on Monday evening next, April 21st at 8 o'clock. By order, A. T. GREEN, Sec'y.

CRESCENT CO. NO 10.—An adjourned meeting your company will be held on Tuesday evening next, April 22, at 7 1/2 o'clock. By order, E. B. McGROTTE, Secretary.

MARION RIFLES.—A meeting of the Marion Rifles will be held this [Saturday] evening for the election of officers.

Hon. J. B. WELLES.—We tender our thanks to Senator Wells for valuable public documents.

THEATRICAL AND MUSICAL.

JOSEPH TRENCH.—A complimentary benefit to this gentleman is announced for this evening at the Metropolitan theatre, and we indulge the hope that the spacious edifice reared through his energy and perseverance, may be crowded from pit to dome with an audience which will testify to the appreciation of our citizens for his efforts to gratify their theatrical taste.

Mr. Trench is really deserving of a substantial benefit, and as he is about leaving the State for a time, those who by his charitable acts have repeatedly received advantages from him, should embrace the opportunity given, of reciprocating his good intentions. The bill of performances presented is an excellent one, and cannot fail to attract a numerous and fashionable auditory.

We are no advocates of complimentary benefits, but this one so entirely due the recipient, that our objections are waived, and we add our appeal to assist in rendering the affair what it ought in reality to be, a Benefit.

SAN FRANCISCO HALL.—The Minstrels have performed to splendid houses during the week.

On Tuesday, Wells took a benefit, which filled every portion of the Hall to overflowing, and many were turned from the doors. The attendance of ladies increases nightly, a circumstance highly flattering to the performers.

Birch has added some new and charming ballads to his already rich store. Zorer has assumed a new and higher range in his operatic music, and Lewis, the queen of dancers, executes nightly a bewitching dance, receiving in return the hearty plaudits of the audience.

Eph. Horn, will commence on Monday evening to play a farewell engagement, prior to his departure for the States.

As a matter of course, this old favorite will add much to the rich attractions of the Hall. Messrs. Patterson and Westfall, the ushers of this establishment are deserving of credit for the courteous manner with which all are treated who visit the Hall. In all his arrangements, Mr. Maguire has been fortunate.

CHARITABLE FUND.—A Benefit in aid of the Charitable Fund of the Fire Department, has been tendered by Mr. E. Duret, to take place at the Metropolitan Theatre on Wednesday evening next.

Vigilant No. 9.

At an adjourned meeting of Vigilant Engine Co. No. 9, held on Friday evening, April 27th, the following report was presented by a committee appointed to draft resolutions expressive of the sentiments of the company towards their late Foreman, Mr. John Short. The report was received with enthusiasm, and unanimously adopted.

Resolved, that the members of Vigilant Engine Co., received with the most profound regret, the communication of Mr. John Short, conveying the tender of his resignation of the office of Foreman of this company, accepting it at last, because of the urgency with which it was pressed, and with the utmost reluctance on our part.

Resolved, that to the energetic and steadfast exertions of Mr. Short, and to the deep interest taken by him in promoting the interests of this company, is to a considerable extent due, whatever of credit and reputation our company may have acquired in the estimation of the Fire Department and the community at large.

Resolved, that during the long period of Mr. Short's connection with our company, whether in an official or private station, he has at all times displayed those qualities that distinguish the true fireman, and that command the respect and esteem of others.

Resolved, that the Secretary be instructed to transmit a copy of the above resolutions to Mr. Short, and that they be published in the Fireman's Journal.

J. W. CHERRY, J. D. BLUMBERG, Wm. H. BOVEE, Committee.

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